

Christ Our Hope Catholic Church

Faith in Laity Corner



Monday, July 08, 2019

14th Sunday of Ordinary Times

Readings: Luke 10:1-12, 17-20

Our World Mission- Now

There are no words or excuses when before the eyes of rich, powerful and knowledgeable human beings, blind eyes turn the other way from the condition met out to poor, voiceless migrant people who are now wounded twice. They are forced to flee their country and are then now insulted by any country they try to enter. The richer the country it appears, the worse the treatment.

“Amnesty said many of the world's wealthiest nations

“host the fewest and do the least”

(<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/10/ten-countries-host-world-refugees-report-161004042014076.html>)

One cannot feel comfortable or anyway proud to deny the reality of the Beatitudes... or do we deliberately forget that our actions as a people and a nation will be held against us? There appears to be in the USA the feeling that this is the only country facing migrant issues.... Let me list some other countries that are in this group: France, Kenya, Turkey, Pakistan, Sudan, Italy, Greece, Chad, Jordan, Trinidad and Tobago.... Listing these countries is to bring to the attention of those who feel far from understanding that the refugee and migrant issues are worldwide. Yes, little Trinidad and Tobago have accepted thousands of refugees from Venezuela.... due to the economic collapse of infrastructure and services and food supplies. Yet

we listen and maybe fooled to think that migrants are fleeing to the USA alone. At least 40% of the world's population is now displaced whether by climate changes, war, violence, economic collapse or religious persecution. People rarely enjoy uprooting from the land of their birth to venture to a strange country; masses only do this under extreme duress.

As this week the Readings from the Gospel of St. Luke allows one to reflect on accepting the Christ mission and going forth, while last week one looked at receiving and accepting the mission of Jesus Christ. Jesus never in His commissioning of followers, displayed doubt of the task at hand.

“The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few.” (Lk.10:2)

Anyone who work with a group or is a leader, there is the unanimous belief that the tasks tend to fall on a few good workers, while others show limited commitment. It was known that the mission would require time and sense of duty, even Jesus had to acknowledge that there were few truly committed people who would be willing to go beyond the normal. Those who went above and beyond are called ‘*saints*.’

“Behold, I am sending you like lambs among wolves.” (Lk.10:3)

It was clearly stated that the environment into which we were to operate and fulfil our mission would be hostile and as Christian, we will always need to have the full armour of God to protect us. Our mission would demand that we go with no material things, our survival would lay squarely on the grace of God.

“Carry no money bag, no sack, no sandals;” (Lk. 10:4)

When on the mission there should not be the burdens of worldly items, just the guidance and voice of the Holy Spirit. Our heart cannot hear the Spirit when we surround ourselves with distracting worldly trappings, this will slow or cease the mission of spreading the Word of God. Far too often there is the feeling that we are not a part of this mission, God called us all to take an active part in bringing His Name to the ends the earth.

“The kingdom of God is at hand for you.”(Lk. 10:9)

The world need to hear the Word of God so much more urgently, we don't have time to slow down- but to plod forward, praying for those around us, those who are in our workplace, our church and our nation. Only when we stand with the mission of God can we overcome the errors of our world.

Over the past three weeks, 5 people I know have been called before God, we must remember that our mission is not in working for ourselves, but to reach out to others.

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Let us pray for refugees and migrant peoples around the earth; 35% of people have to flee their country due to extreme poverty, climate change, war, economic collapse. May we begin to understand their struggle and may we seek opportunities to show our generosity.

Faith in Laity Corner is a weekly sharing written by Brenda Chee Wah

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Your remarks, questions and comments can be emailed to faithinlaity@gmail.com

<http://www.christourhopeatl.org/becoming-a-catholic/christ-our-hope-catholic-church-weekly-reflections.php>

Weekly readings are taken from USCCB